

St James and St John CE Primary School

Anti Bullying Policy



This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

Discipline and Behaviour Policy, the Physical Restraint Policy, Safeguarding Policy, Inclusion Policy, Supervision Policy and the Equalities Policy. Other policies not listed here may also have relevance to the issue of Bullying.

Anti Bullying Policy

What is Bullying?

Bullying is purposeful and repeated action conducted by an individual or group and directed against an individual who cannot defend him/ herself in the situation.

Bullying can take different forms:

- Verbal bullying: name calling, use of threatening or provocative language, etc;
- Psychological bullying: excluding an individual from group play, refusing to talk to or even acknowledge an individual;
- Physical bullying: hitting, kicking, grabbing an individual; taking or hiding another's property etc.

At St.James and St John we acknowledge that bullying does happen from time to time- indeed, it would be unrealistic to claim that it does not. However, it is our aim to:

Ensure that all children and adults within school have a common understanding of what bullying is:

- Minimise all forms of bullying;
- Communicate clearly to children and parents the school's strong response;
- Stress that the whole school community acts together on this issue;
- Continually work to maintain a warm and harmonious atmosphere within school:

Principles

- All allegations of bullying will be carefully investigated;
- Pupil's, parents and staff will be encouraged to talk openly about the issue;
- As part of the curriculum, greater understanding of bullying in all its forms will be developed;
- Children will be taught strategies to help them deal with bullying situations which they may encounter;
- Staff will respond calmly and consistently to allegations or incidents of bullying;
- The school will protect and support all parties during school / extra curricular time and on school premises whilst issues are resolved.

Whole School Strategies to Minimise Bullying

1. We have set up a quiet reflection corner where children can go if they are not enjoying playtime or wish to sit quietly. A school council member will investigate the reasons for the child sitting in the corner and will report to a member of staff.

St James and St John CE Primary School

Anti Bullying Policy

A regular programme of PSHE work, with emphasis on role play, will support this policy.

3. There will be regular teacher – class discussion, e,g during circle time, dealing with friendship / playtime issues.

4. "Saying no to bullying" is inherent in the ethos of the school. It will be specifically taught through the SEAL curriculum. The school will have a high Focus on Anti Bullying in November of each year when Anti Bullying Week is promoted.

5. Peer support will be strongly emphasised : children will be taught how to effectively support a bullied child, how to resist "joining in" with bullying and how not to be a bystander.

6. A school Anti-Bullying Code is in use, giving clear advice to children on what to do if you are a witness or a victim of bullying.

If you see someone being bullied:

- DON'T rush over and take the bully on;
- DO let a teacher or other staff member know;
- DO try to be a friend to the person being bullied;
- DON'T be made to join in;
- DO try to help the bully stop bullying.
- DON'T be a bystander

If you are a victim of bullying:

- TELL a teacher or another adult in school;
- Tell your family;
- TAKE a friend with you if you are scared to tell someone by yourself;
- KEEP telling people until someone listens;
- DON'T blame yourself for what has happened.

How the School Responds To Specific Allegations of Bullying

1.Children will know who to talk to in the first instance. This will usually be their class teacher, but it could also be;

- A member of the School Council;
- Another teacher known to them;
- A Learning Support Assistant;
- A Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant.

2.The children must be given every opportunity to report the bullying in the first instance, but it will be the class teacher who will follow up allegations. Therefore, any other adult in a position of responsibility should feed back to the class teacher as soon as possible.

St James and St John CE Primary School

Anti Bullying Policy

3. The class teacher takes steps to discuss the problem with the bullies to establish the situation and talk through any issues. An early resolution is sought using these tactics.
4. Both bullied and bullying parties are informed that the situation is being monitored by the class teacher/s concerned.
5. If there is no improvement, or further bullying occurs, the parents of the bullying child must be contacted in order to come into school to discuss the problem and to make clear that a zero tolerance policy is being adhered to. If further bullying takes place, there is a real risk that the bully will be excluded for a fixed term in the first instance.
6. As a result of the discussion clear expectations are laid down as to:
 - Expected behaviour and attitudes;
 - Where the bullying child should be at specific times of the day;
 - Who they should report to, and when:
 - Who they should keep away from:
 - What are the arrangements for beginning/ending lessons, lunchtimes, starting and ending day.
 - Individual circumstance will determine the precise arrangements to be made.
7. Support is given to the bullying child to raise their self esteem and develop appropriate social skills.

Cyber Bullying

Cyber bullying" is defined as a young person tormenting, threatening, harassing, or embarrassing another young person using the Internet or other technologies, like cell phones. Most cyber bullying involves children in their teens however, within the context of a primary school Year 5 and Year 6 may be involved in cyber bullying and are vulnerable

The psychological and emotional outcomes of cyber bullying are similar to those of real-life bullying. The difference is, real-life bullying often ends when school ends. For cyber bullying, there is no escape. And, it's getting worse. The following facts are provided by Crisis.

- Nearly 43% of kids have been bullied online. 1 in 4 has had it happen more than once.
- 70% of students report seeing frequent bullying online.
- Over 80% of teens use a cell phone regularly, making it the most common medium for cyber bullying.
- 68% of teens agree that cyber bullying is a serious problem.
- 81% of young people think bullying online is easier to get away with than bullying in person.
- 90% of teens who have seen social-media bullying say they have ignored it.

St James and St John CE Primary School

Anti Bullying Policy

- 84% have seen others tell cyber bullies to stop.
- Only 1 in 10 victims will inform a parent or trusted adult of their abuse.
- About 58% of kids admit someone has said mean or hurtful things to them online. More than 4 out 10 say it has happened more than once.
- About 75% have visited a website bashing another student.
- Bullying victims are more likely to consider committing suicide.

The school will therefore support our children and parents in dealing with on line bullying through:

Raising the issue and how to deal with it in computing, PSHE and other lessons and when the issue is raised by the children themselves.

Provide internet safety workshops for parents to raise their awareness.

St James and St John CE Primary School Anti Bullying Policy

Appendix

Anti Bullying Code

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